



## PRACTICE 2

1. **Title** - Hospital Infection Control Committee (HICC) and Hospital infection control practices
2. **Objectives of the Practice**

To improve the clinical outcome by an effective infection control programme through coordination of activities related to **surveillance, prevention and control of infections** using a multidisciplinary team approach. To identify the threat areas and take appropriate corrective actions in reducing the risks of **Health Care Associated Infections** among patients and in healthcare workers.

### 3. The Context

Hospital has a fully functioning **Hospital Infection Control Committee (HICC)**, which deals with **patient safety and infection control practices**. At regular sessions all the batches of students and interns are equipped with the safety norms and the infection control practices to be followed in the hospital.

### 4. The Practice

#### Pre-clinical Phase

Students are taught on patient safety and care aspects which include



1. Doctor Patients Relationship
2. Universal Precautions
3. First Aid Bleeding, Burns, electrical injuries, bandaging
4. Principles of waste management

### **Para- clinical Phase**

The following topics are discussed along with the above are

1. Microbiology of hospital infections
2. Decontamination of hospital environment
3. Specific procedures for collection of samples
4. Diagnosis and control of nosocomial infections
5. Common types of nosocomial infections
6. Hand hygiene
7. Occupational exposures
8. Management of blood and body fluid spills
9. HIC team and Hospital Acquired Infections surveillance
10. Responsibilities of healthcare settings

### **Clinical Phase and for Interns**

In addition to the above, experiential learning is imparted through hands on training on the following aspects

1. Appropriate usage of Personal Protective Equipment
2. Identification and management of Hospital outbreaks



3. Rational use of blood and blood components as per defined policies procedures
4. Medico legal aspects of Patient care
5. Principles and use of antibiotics
6. Infection control measures in OT
7. Isolation/quarantine of patients
8. Documented policies and procedures guide the care of patients in ICUs and HDU
9. Documented policies and procedures guide the care of patients undergoing surgical procedures

OUTCOME OF

## **5. EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS**

### **1. Hospital Acquired Infections surveillance:**

Identifying the reasons for HAI has reduced the burden of HAI and equipped the students in executing **what to check, what to do and what not to do** during the analysis of such practices.

### **2. Universal precautions:**

The universal precautions acquired largely in the hospital and in the community have played a huge role especially in the times of COVID pandemic. This substantiates the significance of imparting infection control practices to all the medical students which in turn would benefit the community as a whole in prevention of infection spread.



### **3. Principles of waste management:**

All the medical students are invariably taught and emphasized on segregation of biomedical waste. The impact of such knowledge has helped in better implementation of practices that does not harm the environment, does not infect the other living beings, and has also helped in safe disposal of drugs and bio medical waste and safe reuse of reusable devices.

### **4. Principles and use of antibiotics:**

Antibiotic resistance is one of the huge global problems that the world is facing and all the medical students are taught about the judicious use of antibiotics. The principle and the mechanism of action were taught as didactic lectures in the theory classes. This in turn has helped in procurement and the appropriate use of antibiotics, thereby reducing the overall burden of resistance.

### **5. Infection control measures in OT:**

Basic knowledge of the OT and the infection control measures in OT is explained to the students for proper surgical prophylaxis, intra and post op care to prevent surgical site infections. This in turn has helped in reducing infections in the hospital settings.

### **6. Documented policies:**



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All kinds of documents are explained to the students that help them in assessment and all other kinds of activities. This has helped them in understanding the issues related to the procedures.

### **Uniqueness:**

The practices are unique since it helps in **better healthcare facilities and heightened responsibility in rendering healthcare services** to the patients and to the community.

### **Challenges:**

- Adherence and compliance with the time tested policies and preventive measures among the healthcare workers.
- More time investment and coordination from all the sectors of hospital involved.